



Rural Health Team

# Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems



*"Promoting and Protecting the Health of Iowans"*

# Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems (OHDS)

OHDS is within the Division of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention. This bureau consists of two centers: Center for Rural Health and Primary Care (RHPC) and Oral Health Center.

Vision: Healthy Iowans living in health communities.

Mission: Promoting the overall health and wellness of every Iowan through prevention of disease and improved access to health care.

The RHPC focuses on health care access issues that affect Iowa's rural and local communities.

Programs include:

- State Office of Rural Health (SORH)**

- Iowa Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program (Flex)**

- Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP)**

- Primary Care Office**

- Workforce/Recruitment and Retention**

# State Office of Rural Health (SORH)

## Center for Rural Health and Primary Care Advisory Committee

- ▶ The Advisory Committee members provide broad-based input from throughout the state regarding rural health issues in Iowa and insure that the issues are addressed in a timely manner.

## State Office of Rural Health (SORH)

- ▶ The State Office of Rural Health (SORH) is a federal-state partnership to help rural communities and organizations identify and resolve issues and build rural health infrastructure.
- ▶ The office provides rural health advocacy and outreach, coordination of rural health resources and consultation to communities and health care providers in rural Iowa communities.

## Governor's Shortage Designation

For further program details please contact:

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# Rural Hospital Programs

- ▶ **Iowa Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program (Flex) - 25 beds or less**
  - ▶ Provides resources to Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) on the following:
    - ▶ Quality and Safety Improvement
    - ▶ Financial and Operational Improvement
    - ▶ Emergency Medical Systems (EMS)
  
- ▶ **Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) - 49 beds or less**
  - ▶ Provides resources to small rural hospitals on the following:
    - ▶ Improving data collection
    - ▶ Improving quality outcomes
    - ▶ Building accountability across the continuum of care through payment bundling
    - ▶ Maintaining accurate Prospective Payment Systems (PPS) billing and coding

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# Primary Care Office (PCO)

- ▶ **Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)**
  - ▶ Shortage designations are designed to identify communities with diminishing health care services and provide them with opportunities to improve access to and availability of care.
  - ▶ By identifying health care shortage areas, communities become eligible for state and federal assistance to recruit and retain health professionals, access additional reimbursement dollars, and eventually alleviate the shortage.
  - ▶ The PCO requests and maintains shortage designations for Iowa by tracking medical professionals in each county.
- ▶ **National Health Service Corps (NHSC)**
  - ▶ NHSC provides resources through loan repayment and scholarships to selected health care professionals to provide access to underserved areas.
  - ▶ The PCO reviews site applications and provide recommendations to the Division of Regional Operations
- ▶ **J-1 Visa/Conrad 30 waiver program**
  - ▶ A J-1 visa is a non-immigrant visa issued by the United States to research scholars, professors and exchange visitors participating in programs that promote cultural exchange, especially to obtain medical or business training within the U.S.
  - ▶ Each state's PCO processes up to 30 applications a year and send our recommendations to the U.S. Department of State. 20 applicants go to a shortage area determined by the HPSA process. The 10 remaining slots are flex slots that can be utilized anywhere in the state.
  - ▶ Individuals participating in the J-1 Visa Conrad 30 program waives the 2 year requirement to go back to their home country after their education visa (J Visa - educational visa) and allows them to work in a medical facility and continue to work toward establishing citizenship.
- ▶ **National Interest Waiver (NIW)**
  - ▶ Is a petition for an employment-based immigrant visa, generally requires a specific, permanent job offer and a corresponding approved labor certification.
  - ▶ The PCO provides letters of support for NIW's on behalf of physicians in Iowa. Physicians must agree to work in a shortage area for five years.

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# State Funded activities within the PCO

- ▶ **Volunteer Health Care Provider Program (VHCPP)**
  - ▶ VHCPP was established to defend and indemnify eligible individual health care providers and protected clinics providing free health care services.
  - ▶ Monitor the Registered Clinics and Providers within the program.
- ▶ **Free Clinics and Free Clinics of Iowa**
  - ▶ Contract management to secure statewide medical homes inclusive of oral health care
- ▶ **Iowa Association of Rural Health Clinics**
  - ▶ Contract management to provide infrastructure and service delivery transformation of rural health clinics in Iowa
- ▶ **Polk County Medical Society**
  - ▶ Contract management to provide safety net provider patient access to a specialty health care initiative
- ▶ **SafeNetRx**
  - ▶ Contract management of administering programs to connect vulnerable Iowans with access to free and low-cost medications and for the prescription drug donation repository program.

For further program details please contact:

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# Workforce Programs

## Recruitment & Retention

- ▶ **Mental Health Programs**
  - ▶ **Psychologist Rotation Training Program**
  - ▶ **Behavior Analyst**

For further program details please contact:

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# Workforce Programs

## ► **PRIMECARRE Loan Repayment Program**

- The Primary Care Recruitment and Retention Endeavor (PRIMECARRE) goal is to strengthen the primary health care infrastructure in Iowa.
- Offers two-year grants to primary care medical, dental, and mental health practitioners for use in repayment of educational loans.
- Requires a two-year practice commitment in a public or non-profit site located in a health professional shortage area (HPSA).
- Provides \$30,000 up to \$50,000 for the full two-year commitment for full-time eligible applicants and up to \$15,000 to \$25,000 for the full two year commitment is available for part-time eligible applicants.
- State and Federal partnership. Iowa receives Federal funds called State Loan Repayment Program funds that is matched by the state of Iowa.

## ► **Medical Residency - State funded**

- Goal of program is to increase the number of accredited medical residencies in Iowa with a priority for Family Practice or Psychiatric residencies that will result in physicians choosing to practice health care in Iowa.
  - Contract with: Broadlawns, Mercy Medical - DSM, Mercy Medical North Iowa and Unity Point - DSM

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# 3RNet -

- ▶ 3RNet is a job search web site devoted exclusively to rural health care recruitment. Candidates log in, select job titles of interest, and contact facilities directly. Hospitals and clinics log in, post job openings, and communicate with candidates.
- ▶ Each state has one dedicated representative - IDPH holds the membership for the state of Iowa.



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